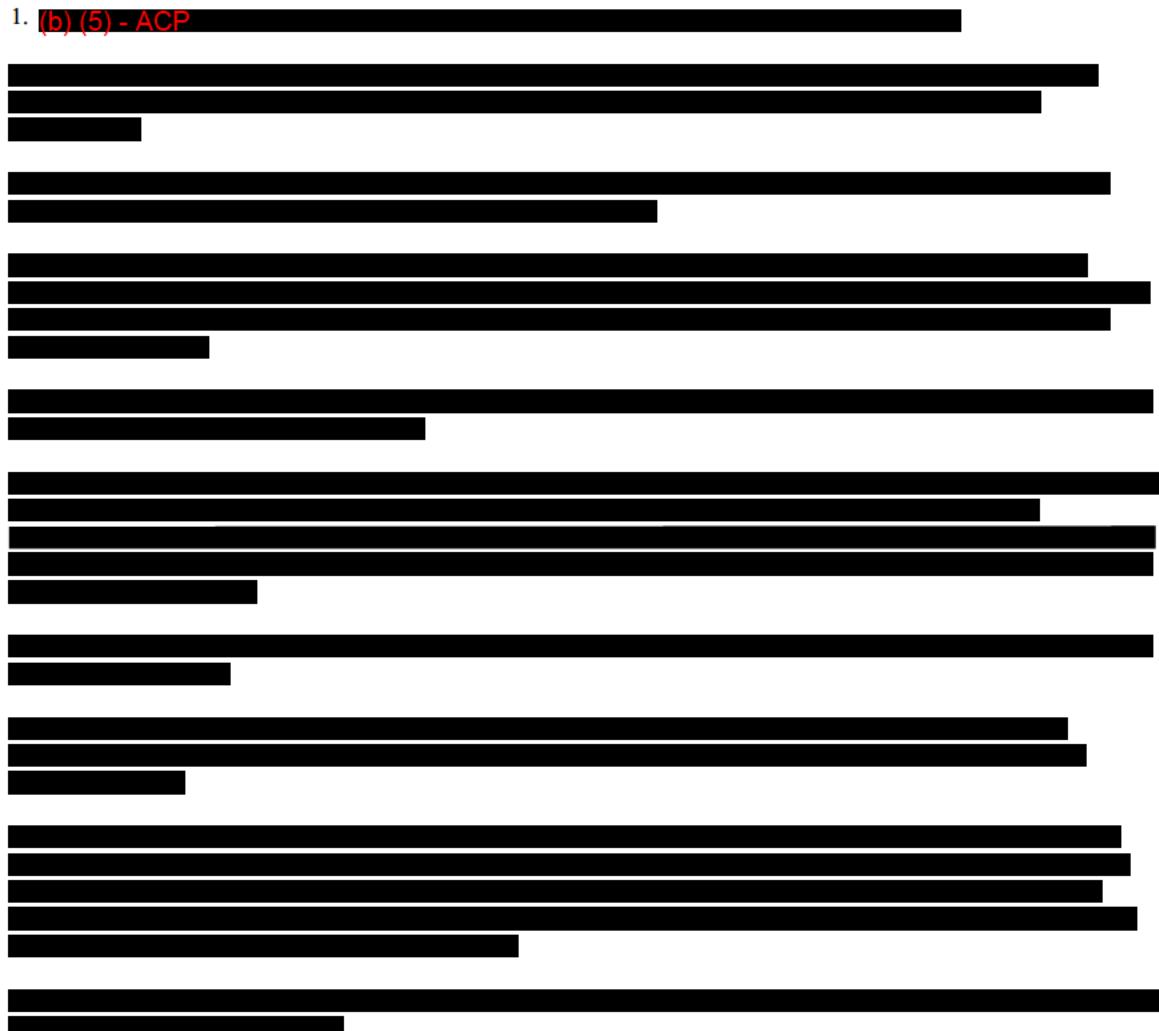


To: Moody, Aaron[aaron.moody@sol.doi.gov]
Cc: Edwin Roberson[eroberso@blm.gov]; John Steiger[john.steiger@sol.doi.gov]; Leah Peterson[leah.peterson@sol.doi.gov]
From: Ashcroft, Tyler
Sent: 2017-02-14T14:21:06-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Bears Ears
Received: 2017-02-14T14:25:21-05:00
Bears Ears National Monument Public Meetings Director Briefing_021017.docx
FinalNewsRelease_BENM_NextSteps.pdf

Aaron,
Good to hear from you. Here are some responses to your questions.

1. (b) (5) - ACP



Let me know if you need any more information.

Attached is the briefing on on public meetings. I am also sending you a press release that we issued a few weeks ago.

On Tue, Feb 14, 2017 at 11:47 AM, Moody, Aaron <aaron.moody@sol.doi.gov> wrote:

Hi Tyler:

(b) (5) - ACP

[REDACTED] ? (b) (5) DPP [REDACTED] Anything else?

2. (b) (5) - ACP [REDACTED] (b) DPP [REDACTED] Any other info?

3. (b) (5) - ACP [REDACTED] (b) P [REDACTED]

4. (b) (5) - ACP . (b) (5) DPP [REDACTED] Any other info on that?

Any other updates?

Thanks for any help! Hope all is well.....

-Aaron

Aaron G. Moody
Assistant Solicitor, Branch of Public Lands
Division of Land Resources
Office of the Solicitor
U.S. Department of the Interior
202-208-3495

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Tyler Ashcroft
Project Manager
Bureau of Land Management
(801)-539-4068

INFORMATION/ BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

DATE: February 10, 2017
FROM: Edwin Roberson, Utah State Director
SUBJECT: Bears Ears National Monument Public Open House Meetings

BACKGROUND

Former President Barack Obama designated Bears Ears National Monument (BENM) in southeastern Utah on December 28, 2016. Concurrently, the former Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Agriculture announced that the agencies would conduct open house meetings in January, 2017 to begin engaging with the public and to “answer questions from permittees and other interested stakeholders.”

Prior to engaging the public, the two agencies determined that they should meet tribes identified in the Bears Ears National Monument proclamation (the Hopi Nation, Navajo Nation, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah Ouray, and Zuni Tribe) and with key partners including San Juan County and the State of Utah.

On January 18, 2017, BLM in coordination with the USFS issued a press release outlining next steps for the agencies in addressing the Bears Ears National Monument. As part of that press release, BLM-Utah State Director Ed Roberson committed to host the first public open house in late February.

On February 7, 2017, BLM-Utah State and District leadership met separately with the tribes and with San Juan County. State Director Ed Roberson has also met with the representatives from the State of Utah. Because we were unable to schedule meetings with the county and tribes until early February and the logistics of scheduling the proposed public open houses, we will not be able to host the first one by the end of February.

DISCUSSION

(b) (5) - DPP



The Utah State Director must make a decision in the very near future whether to (b) (5) - DPP [REDACTED]

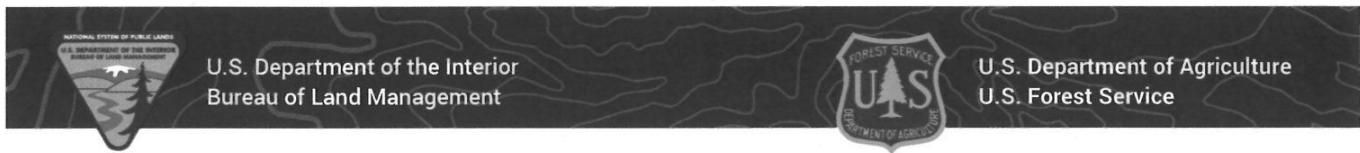
NEXT STEPS

Determine whether to (b) (5) - DPP [REDACTED] If the decision is to (b) (5) - DPP [REDACTED]

1. (b) (5) - DPP [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

ATTACHMENTS

None.



News Release

Utah State Office

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 18, 2017

Contact: BLM: Kimberly Finch
(801) 539-4195
USFS: Marla Trollan
(801) 625-5347

Looking Forward and Working Together: Next Steps for Bears Ears National Monument

SALT LAKE CITY – President Barack Obama designated Bears Ears National Monument (BENM) in southeastern Utah on December 28, 2016. Concurrently, Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and former Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack announced that the agencies would conduct open house meetings to begin engaging with the public and stakeholders. The BLM and US Forest Service (USFS) have reached out to state and local government, stakeholders, and the tribes to schedule meetings this month and will host open houses with the public beginning in February.

“The issuance of the proclamation designating the Bears Ears National Monument provides a new opportunity for public engagement and collaboration with partners and state and local government. I understand the strong feelings behind this new designation, both for and against, and I am committed to listening. Maintaining relationships will be the key to our success,” said Ed Roberson, BLM-Utah State Director.

Managing a national monument requires input, coordination, and expertise from many people and public involvement is a key part of the process. To ensure there is input and coordination during the planning process and in monument management, the proclamation established a Bears Ears (Tribal) Commission and directed the BLM and the USFS to create a new Monument Advisory Committee (MAC). Consistent with current commitments and to further the ongoing public conversation about the monument, the BLM and USFS are dedicated to listening to concerns and moving forward in a measured way.

“We are committed to collaborating with state and local governments, tribal nations and individuals in developing a plan for co-management of the monument,” said Nora Rasure, USFS Regional Forester. “The designation of the monument will help ensure the area’s unique biological diversity, recreational opportunities, geologic features, archaeological resources, wilderness and scenic resource are conserved for future generations.”

This winter, the BLM and USFS will engage with a variety of interested parties. “Open houses will provide a forum for the public to ask questions regarding the boundaries, requirements, and effects of the proclamation, including what has changed and what has not,” said Roberson. Opportunities for engagement will continue to develop. Current opportunities include:

Late January – The BLM will publish a call for nominations in the *Federal Register* to recruit 12 members for a new MAC, including representation from state and local governments, tribes, recreation users, local business owners and private landowners. The MAC will consist of citizens and

representatives with a variety of backgrounds who will advise the BLM and USFS on developing a monument management plan and on key issues for managing the new national monument.

Late February – BLM and USFS will host the first public open house.

In February, the BLM and USFS will meet with the five tribes identified in the proclamation as forming the Bears Ears Commission (the Hopi Nation, Navajo Nation, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah Ouray, and Zuni Tribe). The two agencies will also meet with tribes that have a cultural affiliation with the area identified in the Bears Ears National Monument proclamation. The BLM and USFS look forward to meeting with key partners including San Juan County and the State of Utah.

The BLM and USFS will develop additional website content for the national monument, social media posts, and provide more detailed map information. As new steps and stages develop, the agencies will provide additional information to the public.

Bears Ears National Monument consists of 1.35 million acres of public land that the BLM and USFS managed prior to the designation, and marks the fifth national monument jointly managed by the BLM and USFS. The national monument was designated to protect American Indian heritage and archaeological resources, as well as natural and paleontological resources in the Bears Ears region, a designation that was first envisioned 80 years ago. The BLM manages 1.06 million acres and the USFS manages 290,000 acres of the national monument. For more information, please see the respective agency websites: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/national-conservation-lands/national-monuments/utah> and <https://www.fs.fed.us/visit/bears-ears-national-monument>.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2015, the BLM generated \$4.1 billion in receipts from activities occurring on public lands.

-BLM-

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